

## The Curriculum at IVC

We are very proud of the curriculum that we offer at Impington. The International Baccalaureate Middle Year's programme which is our Key Stage 3 curriculum sits at the very heart of the College's ethos and ensures that students are fully equipped to be highly successful young people and effective independent thinkers with a genuine passion for learning:

**Inspirational:** our staff pledge to deliver inspiring and engaging lessons, leading to outstanding achievement for all students and a genuine passion for learning. Our curriculum is innovative and unique within the state sector; it combines academic excellence with enrichment and personal development, creating young people with a range of transferable skills, who are rounded, caring and highly motivated to succeed.

**Inclusive:** we offer a totally inclusive programme of qualifications, from IB MYP for all to entry level and vocational subjects as well as more traditional GCSE subjects, the IB Diploma and IB Careers Programme. The wide choice of subjects allows for a tailored programme for individual students and one which allows all of our students to succeed and to prepare for the next stage of their studies.

**International:** our curricula are based on the core principles of the International Baccalaureate programmes, which sit at the heart of our College. As an IB World School, the aims of the IB: to develop learners who are inquiring, knowledgeable, caring and motivated to succeed, are at the centre of all our curricula – academic, pastoral and co. We are also one of very few schools to offer five different foreign languages at GCSE and in our IB DP, including Modern European, Asian and Ancient languages, as part of our commitment to international mindedness, with almost all students studying at least one language at GCSE.

## **The Academic Curriculum: Outline**

### **Years 7-9**

From September 2021 the new cohort of students in year 7 will follow the IB MYP until they are in year 9; giving them a broad and varied experience. Students are encouraged to make links between subjects and to develop the skills, techniques and ways of learning that will enable them to be successful both in their future academic careers and become lifelong learners.

From September 2021 the current year 8 cohort will continue to follow the legacy curriculum and begin their GCSEs in year 9.

### **Years 10-11: Exploring GCSEs in depth**

At IVC students are given careful guidance to choose their options in year 9 (the September 2021 year 8 cohort will choose in year 8). We offer a very broad and balanced curriculum, which ensures all students continue a Humanities subject and most a language throughout their time at IVC. We offer a very wide range of GCSE options, including the full range of Arts subjects. We believe our preparation for GCSE allows students to be well-prepared for the demands of the qualifications, whilst not being taught solely to the examination.

### **Years 12 and 13: IB Programmes**

In years 12 and 13 we offer two main pathways, the IB Diploma Programme and the IB Careers Programme. Both of these programmes are a natural continuation from students' experiences in the main College, and equip them either for the workplace or further study.

#### **International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP)**

The IBDP is the principal academic programme at Impington International College, offering students a breadth and depth of curriculum that is highly regarded by the world's best universities. The DP curriculum is made up of six subject groups: their first language, a second language, humanities, science, maths and one other which can be arts or another choice. The IBDP also has its core, comprising theory of knowledge (TOK), creativity, activity, service (CAS) and an extended essay. The IBDP is one of the world's most highly regarded and academically rigorous educational programmes. The IBDP offers a stable, credible and internationally recognised path to academic success in an increasingly competitive and changeable world.

#### **International Baccalaureate Careers Programme (IBCP)**

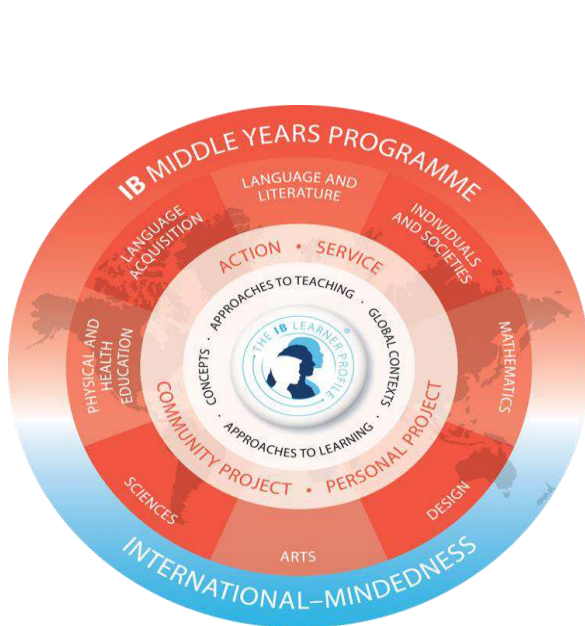
Impington's sixth form is at the forefront of the development of the IBCP. As part of the IBCP students undertake a minimum of two IB Diploma (DP) courses of their choice, a core consisting of four components and a career-related study. For the Careers Programme (CP) students, DP courses provide the theoretical underpinning and academic rigour of the programme; the career-related study further supports the programme's academic strength and provides practical, real-world approaches to learning. Students also receive lessons in Personal and Professional Skills and undertake Service Learning, as well as some form of language development. At Impington, the primary focus for the IBCP can include Sport, Performing Arts, Art and Design or Health and Social Care (usually offered as Level 3 BTECs) to set students up either for university or the workplace.

## What does the curriculum look like in practice?

We publish termly overviews for all subject areas, which include topics/content, skills covered and assessed tasks, as well as links to CEAIG, PSHE and SMSC.

### Years 7-9

The Middle Years programme of study for students in years 7 -9 is as follows: a similar structure follows at KS4 with students studying six core groups of subjects, which are based around those in the IB Diploma:



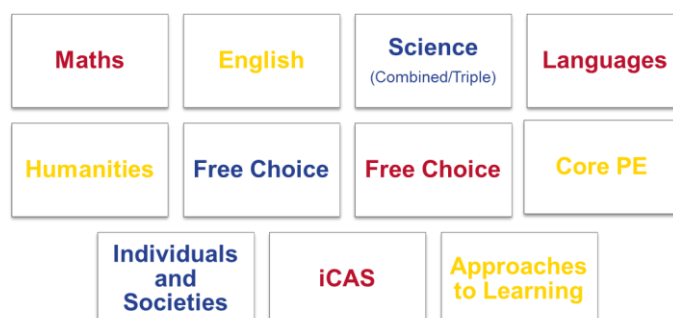
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In years 7 -9, students are taught the following subjects, in addition to their weekly enrichment lesson (iCAS):

Maths	English	Science	Languages	History
Geography	Individuals and Societies	Computing	Product Design	Art
Approaches to Learning	Dance	Drama	Music	PE

## Years 10-11: GCSEs and Technical Awards

At GCSE, students are able to make two free choices, alongside their Humanities and Languages options. A typical curriculum for a KS4 student looks like:

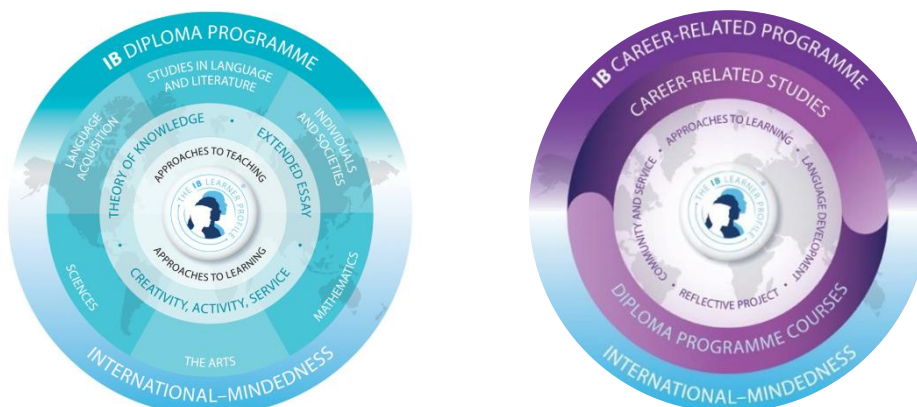


## Booster Programme and Foundation Learning

In years 7-11, we run a Booster Programme with additional literacy and numeracy teaching for students who are not on track to achieve at least a Grade 4 in English and Maths at GCSE. This is taught at KS3 in place of one of the languages, and if students continue in the Booster Programme through their GCSEs, they do not study a language. We also offer a fully bespoke curriculum for our foundation learning students, including those who are Enhanced Resource placements at IVC. This can include ASDAN qualifications, Arts Award, entry level courses and other vocational qualifications alongside a reduced programme of GCSE and Technical Awards.

## Years 12 and 13: International Baccalaureate- DP or CP?

In the sixth form students can choose to follow either the IB Diploma Programme or IB Careers Programme. For full details of the subjects we offer at Post-16, see the sixth form section of our website .



## The 'Core' IVC Curriculum: unique and innovative

At the end of year 11 and year 13, students will be examined in the subjects from their academic curriculum, either at GCSE or as part of their IB programme. Our core curriculum offer, though, is much more than just the qualifications that students will receive at the end of their key stage, and represents our commitment to delivering the College's vision and mission. We have designed an innovative and exciting experience for students that we strongly believe will encourage them to become rounded, broad-minded young people in line with our College values, and that sits at the heart of everything we do.

Impington Village College is incredibly proud to be an IB World School through its connection to our outstanding international sixth form, Impington International College. As part of our commitment to preparing our students for the IB Diploma and Careers Programmes we hope they will pursue in the sixth form, we have taken some of the best elements of the International Baccalaureate in line with our core values, to provide a totally unique curriculum experience for our students, based on the Core of the IB.

The 'core' experience for students runs across all year groups (years 7-11 as part of the IVC Core, and in the sixth form as part of the IB programmes), and sits at the very heart of everything students do. It has three key components:

Approaches to learning: run throughout the Key Stage 3 to key stage 5 curriculum and includes etc etc

### iCAS

All students at Impington (from year 7 to year 12) undertake iCAS, the Impington Creativity, Activity and Service programme that we have built into our curriculum. iCAS is based around the Creativity, Activity, Service component of the IB core:

- **Creativity:** arts, and other experiences that involve creative thinking
- **Activity:** physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle, complementing academic work
- **Service:** an opportunity to help others, to develop leadership skills and show respect

We believe iCAS is important in providing students with new experiences, outside of their academic curriculum. We want our students to have broad horizons and the chance to try new things. The programme supports their personal development and wellbeing, encourages commitment and responsibility, and fosters a sense of accomplishment and enjoyment. We also believe it provides an opportunity for learning for pleasure, rather than for examinations. This is



very important in promoting a balance between academic excellence and wider achievement, and developing students' love of learning and motivation to succeed. It allows students to access a much broader range of activities within the Creative Arts, Languages and Sports throughout their time with us, with over sixty choices offered by staff members and our sixth form students.

## **Physical Wellbeing**

All students have core Physical Education lessons throughout years 7- 11 and access to our sporting facilities in the sixth form. Students access a wide range of sporting and physical activities and are encouraged to keep healthy and stay active. This fits with our whole-College focus on physical and mental wellbeing and encouraging students to find a balance between study and physical activity. The requirement to select an Activity as part of iCAS also means that students have access to a very wide range of physical activities. Some students may also choose to study Sport as part of their pathway, either as a BTEC Sport or GCSE Physical Education, or BTEC Sport as part of the IBCP in the sixth form.